Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An occupant protection system, comprising:

a seat pan arranged below a seat cushion;[[:]]

an inflatable airbag arranged above the seat pan for pushing the seat cushion from below; and

a gas generator for inflating the airbag in an emergency, wherein the gas generator is separate and exterior to the airbag, and is connected to the airbag via a pipe;

wherein the airbag and the gas generator are mounted to the seat pan;

wherein the gas generator is arranged along the upper surface of the seat pan.

2. (Original) An occupant protection system according to Claim 1, wherein the airbag extends along the width direction of the seat pan, opposite ends of the airbag being connected to the seat pan.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) An occupant protection system ~~according to Claim 1~~, comprising:

a seat pan arranged below a seat cushion;

an inflatable airbag arranged above the seat pan for pushing the seat cushion from below; and

a gas generator for inflating the airbag in an emergency, wherein the gas generator is separate and exterior to the airbag, and is connected to the airbag via a pipe;

wherein the airbag and the gas generator are mounted to the seat pan;

wherein the gas generator is arranged along the lower surface of the seat pan.

5. (Currently Amended) An occupant protection system, comprising:

a seat pan configured to be mounted to a seat frame below a seat cushion;

an inflatable airbag mounted to the seat pan to inflate above an upper surface of the seat pan to push the seat cushion from below; and

a gas generator mounted to the seat pan and connected to the airbag to inflate the airbag, wherein the gas generator is separate from the airbag and the gas generator is connected to the airbag via a pipe;

wherein the gas generator is arranged along the upper surface of the seat pan.

6. (Original) An occupant protection system according to Claim 5, wherein the airbag extends along the width direction of the seat pan, opposite ends of the airbag being connected to the seat pan.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) An occupant protection system according to Claim 5 [[7]], wherein the upper surface of the seat pan includes a recessed area, and the gas generator is arranged in the recessed area.

9. (Currently Amended) An occupant protection system ~~according to Claim 5~~, comprising:

a seat pan configured to be mounted to a seat frame below a seat cushion;

an inflatable airbag mounted to the seat pan to inflate above an upper surface of the seat pan to push the seat cushion from below; and

a gas generator mounted to the seat pan and connected to the airbag to inflate the airbag, wherein the gas generator is separate from the airbag and the gas generator is connected to the airbag via a pipe;

wherein the gas generator is arranged along the lower surface of the seat pan.

10. (Previously Presented) An occupant protection system according to Claim 9, wherein the seat pan includes an opening, and the gas generator is connected to the airbag via the pipe, wherein the pipe extends from the gas generator, through the opening, to the airbag.

11. (New) An occupant protection system according to Claim 4, wherein the airbag extends along the width direction of the seat pan, opposite ends of the airbag being connected to the seat pan.

12. (New) An occupant protection system according to Claim 9, wherein the airbag extends along the width direction of the seat pan, opposite ends of the airbag being connected to the seat pan.